

Message Text

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45

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 AID-20 EB-11 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 NIC-01 RSR-01 /158 W

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R 091451Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8431

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 2789

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, SF

SUBJECT: SCHLEBUSCH COMMISSION ISSUES SUBPOENAS

REF: PRETORIA 2483

1. THUS FAR, AT LEAST TEN PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SUBPOENAED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE SCHLEBUSCH COMMISSION SUB-GROUP INVESTIGATING INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS (IRR). TESTIMONY IS TO BE HEARD AUGUST 13 - 31 IN PRETORIA. TWO, AND PROBABLY MORE, OF THOSE SUBPOENAED WILL REFUSE TO TESTIFY DESPITE PENALTY.

2. SUBPOENAS ARE KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO FRED VAN WYK IRR DIRECTOR; CLIVE NETTLETON, DIRECTOR OF IRR YOUTH PROGRAM; DUDLEY HORNER, IRR RESEARCH ASSISTANT; FRANS AUERBACH, SOUTHERN TRANSVAAL REGIONAL CHAIRMAN OF IRR; MISS MURIEL HORRELL, IRR RESEARCH OFFICER; MRS. JOYCE BENTLEY-SMITH, IRR FINANCE OFFICER; QUINTIN WHYTE, FORMER IRR DIRECTOR; MISS JUSTINE PIKE, IRR STAFF MEMBER WORKER; PETER RANDALL, DIRECTOR OF STUDY PROJECT ON CHRISTIANITY IN AN APARTHEID SOCIETY (SPRO-CAS); AND MRS. ILONA KLEINSCHMIDT, ASSISTANT PROGRAMS ORGANIZER FOR

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SPRO-CAS.

3. RANDALL AND KLEINSCHMIDT HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT THEY WILL OBEY SUBPOENAS TO EXTENT OF APPEARING BEFORE COMMISSION BUT WILL DEFINITELY NOT RPT NOT TESTIFY. WHYTE ANNOUNCED THAT HE WILL TESTIFY AND THE OTHERS HAVE GIVEN NO PUBLIC INDICATION OF WHAT THEY WILL DO. RANDALL'S DECISION NOT TO TESTIFY WAS COMMUNICATED IN DRAMATIC LETTER TO COMMISSION CHAIRMAN ALWYN SCHLEBUSCH AND OPPOSITION LEADER SIR DEVILLIERS GRAAFF. IN THIS LETTER, RANDALL ACCUSED UNITED PARTY OF COLLOBORATING WITH GOVERNMENT IN "PROSTITUTION" OF DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES. HE REITERATED HIS WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH AN INDEPENDENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY.

4. THREE OTHERS HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT THEY WILL NOT TESTIFY IN EVENT THEY ARE SUBPOENAED: HORST KLEINSCHMIDT, SPRO-CAS ORGANIZER; JONATHAN PATON AND MICHAEL SAVAGE, BOTH WITWATERSRAND UNIVERSITY LECTURERS AND EXECUTIVE MEMBERS OF IRR.

COMMENT:

5. SCHLEBUSCH COMMISSION SPOKESMEN HAVE APPEALED FOR COOPERATION OF THOSE SUBPOENAED, PROMISING THAT PROCEEDINGS WOULD NOT DEGENERATE INTO "WITCHHUNT". NEVERTHELESS, PEOPLE UNDER INVESTIGATION HAVE AMPLE REASON TO DOUBT COMMISSION'S DISINTERESTEDNESS AND SENSITIVITY. SPRO-CASE MEMBERS, IN PARTICULAR, HAVE BEEN SUBJECT TO GOVERNMENT CAMPAIGN OF HARASSMENT AND INTIMIDATION, I.E., PASSPORT WITHDRAWALS, BANNINGS, ETC. AND THEY MAY WELL BELIEVE THAT SCHLEBUSCH COMMISSION WILL DO ITS BEST TO DISCREDIT SPRO-CAS AND SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATIONS. SAME APPLIES TO PARENT CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE.
HURD

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